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PROCEEDINGS

June 21-27, 1917

FIRST GENERAL SESSION

(Thursday evening, June 21)

THE THIRTY-NINTH Annual Meeting of the American Library Association was called to order by the president, WALTER L. BROWN, librarian of the Buffalo Public Library, in Macauley's Theatre, Louisville, Kentucky, on Thursday evening, June 21, 1917.

Hon. BENNETT H. YOUNG, vice-president of the Board of Trustees of the Louisville Free Public Library, and chairman of the local committee on arrangements, took the chair.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. FRANK M. THOMPSON, pastor of the Fourth Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church, Louisville.

Hon. AUGUSTUS O. STANLEY, Governor of Kentucky, was introduced, and welcomed the Association on behalf of the State of Kentucky.

Hon. JOHN H. BUSCHEMEYER, Mayor of Louisville, extended the welcome to the City of Louisville.

General YOUNG at this point, in a happy vein, presented to President Brown a gavel made of wood from the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln, and a base for the gavel made of wood from the birthplace of Jefferson Davis.

President BROWN, after responding to the presentation of the gavel, took the chair and introduced the speaker of the evening, Dr. SHAILER MATHEWS, dean of the Divinity School of the University of Chicago, who delivered an address on

DEMOCRACY AND WORLD POLITICS

(See p. 95)

At the close of this address the session was adjourned.

SECOND GENERAL SESSION

(Friday morning, June 22, in Macauley's Theatre)

President BROWN presided.

The first number on the program was the reading of the President's address, President Brown taking for his subject

THE CHANGING PUBLIC

(See p. 91)

The PRESIDENT reminded the Conference that since its last annual gathering at Asbury Park, the Association had lost by the hand of death the president of the previous year, Miss Mary W. Plummer, and called upon Miss Josephine A. Rathbone to present on behalf of a specially appointed committee a memorial minute.

MARY WRIGHT PLUMMER

A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, 1887-1916. ITS PRESIDENT 1915-1916.

The American Library Association records its deep sense of loss to the profession by the death of Mary Wright Plummer. For thirty years she brought inspiration and leadership to the councils of this body by her broad vision, her high ideals, her administrative ability and her strong and delightful personality. With international interests and possessing the gift of tongues, Miss Plummer was in touch with European librarians and library movements from Italy to Scandinavia, and on several notable occasions she represented this Association abroad. A librarian of significant achievement, a wise leader in professional training, a guiding spirit in her chosen calling, an inspiration to all with whom she came in contact, Miss Plummer's life was a high and noble influence on her fellow workers. She upheld the highest professional standards in the two library schools which she administered, and profoundly influenced the theory and practice of library training. To hundreds of students her wisdom and her vision of service are a priceless treasure. Possessed of wide and intimate knowledge and firsthand appreciation of literature,

her valuation of books was keen, penetrating and sound. Whatever she wrote showed the sincerity, restraint and charm that characterized her own personality. A quiet spirit, high ideals of work and service, applied with unhurried zeal and sincerity, a great and kindly interest in her fellows, a genius for friendship that bred devotion in those who knew her, these traits were hers in full measure, and will make her memory an abiding ideal for those who shall come after.

R. R. BOWKER,
FRANKLIN F. HOPPER,
JOSEPHINE A. RATHBONE,
Committee.

The above minute was, on motion of Mr. Bowker, unanimously adopted by a rising vote.

The remainder of the session was devoted to a consideration of what libraries and the American Library Association could do in connection with the war. Dr. HERBERT PUTNAM, chairman of the Special preliminary war library committee, which had been appointed by President Brown soon after the entrance of the United States into the war, presented the following committee report:

OUR LIBRARIES AND THE WAR

Report of Preliminary War Library Committee

This committee—appointed by the Executive Board a little over a month ago—was in terms temporary and preliminary. Its object was “to assemble the various suggestions which have been made [for such service] and to bring them before the conference with some sense of proportion, possibly with recommendations as to what might be most practical and most helpful to the government.” It was assumed that the result might be the creation of a “Working committee” that might represent the Association in the activities actually determined upon.

At the outset a distinction may be drawn between the services suggested for libraries individually or in co-operation with the local authorities, city and state, and those suggested for our national Association as such. The former would include

numerous measures to inform and stimulate the local community, to register its potential energies for service of various sorts, and to aid in correlating these, so as to secure the maximum of efficiency, with the least duplication and waste. It would of course include the record for history of the actual participation of the community in every phase of its war time activities. The latter—the service for the A. L. A. as an organization—would involve a close touch, through a specially constituted committee, with the policies and plans of the federal authorities, the acquisition of information which those authorities desire to diffuse, and a systematic method of diffusing it through our libraries, which, next to the newspapers and periodicals and by means of them, are the best agencies for diffusing it generally.

But there is another form of service which makes a special appeal to us as an organization:—the supply of reading matter to the troops. Such a service was early instituted in Germany, and is performed there by “traveling libraries” for the various army corps, each library consisting of from 1,500 to 2,000 volumes, fitted up on shelves in a car of its own, equipped and sent out from the Royal Library in Berlin. It has been undertaken for the British troops through no less than four volunteer organizations, a description of which, by Mr. Koch, will be summarized to you by Dr. Bostwick. It was attempted last year in a very imperfect measure for our troops at the border. That it will be desirable now, and on a vast scale, is obvious. For within a few months we shall have over a half million men in cantonment, training camp, or at the front. Among them will be men hitherto dependent upon books, men trained to the use of books, men untrained to their use but who might, under the unusual conditions, be brought to it, men taken from professions, arts, and trades in which the books supplied might later benefit them, and men of all sorts to whom the inactive hours of camp or field bring depressing tedium and dangerous temptation, and to whom mere-

ly recreative reading would be a saving resource.

Note—To librarians these prospects and what they imply scarcely need exposition. They were outlined by Mr. Gilchrist in an article in the *Library Journal* for May; and they are summarized in a statement by Miss Martha Wilson so compact that we append a copy of it.

They include still some uncertainties: For instance, as to how much leisure for reading and how much energy the men here will have, after the arduous drill of each day; or indeed how much interest in any but tactical books during the novelty of these first exercises and experiences. [The situation of the seasoned troops on the actual front during the past three years affords no parallel.] It is uncertain also how long any particular group of men will remain in training here before going to the front. But as fast as they go their places will be taken by others, as long as the war lasts, and the chief uncertainty is as to how long the war itself will last. But we must prepare as if it were likely to last for several years.

Here, then, seems an extraordinary opportunity—for a service distinctly appropriate, of undoubted value to the government, and of permanent effect. Can the Association undertake it? If not completely, can the Association contribute to it?

There are individual libraries already undertaking it for small units within their vicinity. There is, we hear, a prospect that it may be finely undertaken by Louisville, for the large unit here. There are some states, notably New York, where the State Library, or the State Library Commission has undertaken it for training camps and guard outposts within their jurisdictions. The great concentration of men—in the sixteen main cantonments—will, however, for the most part, be in areas little likely to be served by such means. And there will be the men abroad, and the men on the ships. For all of these the supply must be vast—thousands of volumes; the work of gathering these must be nation wide, of selecting and discriminating them—especially those which

are to be informing and stimulating—must be expert; and the means of gathering, forwarding, accommodating and administering them will require ample, thorough and intelligent organization. Books will have to be bought, large expenses met. The mere housing of the collections at the camp units will require a building, or rooms in an appropriate building, recognized by the authorities. Funds as well as books will have to be solicited. An appeal for them must carry authority. If facilities are to be asked from the government, from railroads or from express companies for forwarding them, the appeal for these also must carry authority.

To undertake such a service independently might prove within the abilities of the A. L. A. To accomplish it successfully would add notably to the prestige of the Association. But, just as in other matters tempting to duplication of organization and thus waste of effort, it is our duty to avoid this by co-ordination, so in this matter it would seem wise for us, before deciding to organize such a service independently, to consider whether there are not other agencies already existing with which we might as efficiently and more economically co-operate.

Now there are three such agencies which would welcome our co-operation: one governmental, one quasi-governmental, the third private. The first is the Commission on Training Camp Activities—an auxiliary of the War Department; the second is the American Red Cross; the third is the Young Men's Christian Association. The second and third are two of the four great agencies in Great Britain. The Red Cross there limits its service of reading matter to the men in the hospitals. This may prove an especial concern of the Red Cross here, though our Red Cross also distributes some books with the soldiers' kits. It also gives away other books and periodicals given to it for the purpose. It does not propose to maintain libraries or lending collections.

The Commission on Camp Activities also expects to gather reading matter, and,

if funds prove available, to purchase some. Its plan is, however, to turn all of this over to the Y. M. C. A. to be administered by it. The buildings maintained by the Commission will be primarily auditoriums for lectures and entertainments.

The Y. M. C. A. expects not merely to solicit and to buy material, but to administer it from its headquarters in camp and field—amplifying in this respect the work it did at the border. The buildings proposed provide for shelving and reading space; inadequately, to be sure, in the initial plans, but doubtless capable of extension, if the need can be shown. [A full statement by Mr. Orr himself, of what the Y. M. C. A. proposes will appear in the *July Library Journal*.]

These various intentions, ascertained by representatives of our committee in conferences with authorized representatives of the three agencies, in particular Mr. Hanmer of the Commission, and Mr. Orr of the Y. M. C. A., have not yet been formulated into definite plans. And certain details remain yet to be determined; for instance, what funds will be available for the purchase of material; whether such of it as is gathered locally shall be sent to a central or to regional headquarters, for classification prior to distribution; and the means and method of transportation. But the representatives made clear that in any case they would welcome and value highly the aid which our Association and our individual libraries might render.

The obvious forms of aid would be these: By the Association, through its special committee, in the compilation of lists of books desirable for purchase or to be sought as gifts. [An example of the latter, undertaken locally, is that issued by the Syracuse Public Library. Experience proves the need of such if a mass of proffered material likely to prove futile is to be avoided. In addition to specific lists there are needed also categories of the general type of literature desired, especially in the informing and stimulating groups. The two needs have been recognized by the Y. M. C. A. in requesting assistance from

a committee of New York librarians of which Mr. Adams is chairman.] The committee could also aid in giving wide publicity to the project, could inform and advise libraries in their relation with it, could give added authority to the appeal for funds and material, and could advise with the representatives of the agencies as to the developing details in the administration.

The important services of the individual library, besides aiding in the publicity, and in the appeal for funds and material would be to receive and sift the latter, and to forward it. In England the local postmasters receive any proffered for the purpose and forward it without charge. No such arrangement offers here. But one or two railroads have undertaken it locally; and an inquiry is before the Railroad Board as to whether our railroad systems might not undertake it generally. Should they agree to they must be safeguarded against the burden of carrying what may not be wanted; and the inquiry was coupled with the suggestion that the local agents need only be authorized to accept for transmission shipments examined and certified by the librarian of the local library. [See a memorandum, appended, from Mr. Johnston of the Bureau of Railway Economics. It is the Bureau which has addressed the Railroad Board in the matter.]

Finally, there is possible a major service which, organized by the A. L. A. committee, would have to be recruited from individual libraries. This is the supply of trained library workers to aid in the actual administration of the collections in the camps. The advantage—indeed from our point of view, the need—of such expert service is obvious, if the most is to be made of the opportunity. And it seems probable that a number of volunteers could be secured sufficient to provide at least one for each cantonment, and perhaps one for each unit building. They would have to be men—as the determined policy of these camp agencies requires this; and, of course, men not subject to

draft.* They would have to serve without pay, except as their present salaries might be continued by their respective libraries. But the Y. M. C. A. and the Official Commission are to consider whether their maintenance expenses might be met by them.

Such being the possible forms of co-operation, if the service of the libraries is to be co-operative, it is for the Association to determine whether it shall adopt them, or attempt a service wholly independent; or, perhaps, adopt them in certain connections and certain localities, yet undertake an additional and distinct service of its own.

The latter must imply funds for four major items of expense: (1) The purchase of [selected] books; (2) [probably] transportation; (3) the erection of independent buildings, and (4) the maintenance of those buildings and of the administration within them. Were the service to be complete, to attempt to reach every unit reached by the Y. M. C. A., for instance, the sum necessary could scarcely be hoped for. If, however, it should be limited to this country, and if, here, it should be limited to one building at each main center—say one to each of the sixteen cantonments—very possibly funds might be secured for both buildings and maintenance. Any solicitation of them should be accompanied by a clear statement of the project, a clear distinction between it and the projects of the other agencies, well considered plans for the buildings and careful estimates of cost. The service on the ships and abroad will involve administrative problems which it seems to your committee unwise for the Association to undertake independently.

The supply of reading matter to the patrol boats on our own coasts—a much needed service—will doubtless be taken care of by the seaboard states under the initiative of their library commissions.

One element in the general prospect

*Or in part men (from libraries) actually under training—volunteering for this service during certain hours free from military duties

clearly requires attention. There are already three agencies making appeals for funds and material. According to a recent announcement the Knights of Columbus may be a fourth. [It has just appropriated a million dollars for camp "recreation" for Roman Catholics.] The Young Men's Hebrew Association might conceivably be a fifth. If the A. L. A. is to be a sixth its appeal must be discriminated. Indeed they all should be, for a multiplicity of appeals to an apparently identical purpose is confusing. The public should be assured that the several services will at least be effectively correlated. And if the appeal could be from a single agency in the joint behalf it would undoubtedly be most convincing.

We have dealt first with this question of reading matter for the troops because it seems to have the largest and most general interest for the Association as an organization. Within their respective jurisdictions, however, state library commissions and individual libraries will have duties and opportunities special to themselves.

As to those of the state commissions, Mr. Dudgeon, of our committee, has drafted a memorandum which we attach as part of our report. Assuming the function of the commission to be to see that every library under its jurisdiction performs to the full its duties in the exigency, the memorandum emphasizes the primary duty of each library to act "as an agency of patriotic publicity," as well as a center for and an active aid in the organization of practical economic and relief work. The commission must urge this publicity service, supply material for it and complement it by direct efforts of its own. It should furnish lists of books on topics timely to the exigency, and where necessary provide the books themselves.

It will especially secure in quantities, and distribute, publications of the federal bureaus and commissions explaining their activities and intended to promote production and conservation of food and other resources.

A prime duty of a state commission

will be to inform libraries, as well as the public, of the various state agencies, governmental and other, available for, or applying themselves, to war time service; and, aiding in the correlation of these, avoid unnecessary duplication, as well as direct the volunteer to his appropriate task. Mr. Wyer, also of our committee, is preparing a statement showing that such agencies for state-wide service now exist in New York, and so far as defined, the relation between them. A similar statement prepared, published and distributed by every library commission for its particular area would be obviously useful.

One exhibiting the agencies national in scope has been prepared and published by the Library of Congress and copies of it—which will, of course, be sent to its mailing list—are also available here.

As in the nation so in the state, new or subsidiary agencies are constantly being created, new relations established. The first such bulletin should therefore be followed by others, bringing the statement to date. And for the national organizations the "Official Bulletin," issued by the governmental Committee on Public Information, should be carefully followed for views of new agencies, and the developing plans of the existing ones.

The Individual Library. For this, dealing directly and intimately with the public, there is a duty to inform, an opportunity to stimulate, and a possible participation, through its staff and facilities, in the actual conduct of certain activities. It will endeavor to inform its public as to why the United States is engaged in the war, what is to be its participation, what is being done by various agencies—national, state and local—and what is the opportunity (for service) of the latter, and of the individual citizen. In pursuance of this purpose, and in aid of every legitimate stimulus, it will employ all of its resources for publicity: its bulletin boards, its publications, its exhibits, its influence with the local press. It will secure for its own collections and exhibits, and also for dis-

tribution to its readers, copies of all publications issued by federal, state or other agencies (for instance, agriculture and food administration) which describe what they are trying to do and wish to interest the public in. It will freely lend its rooms for lectures, talks and organization. It will make prominent collections of selected books—expository, narrative, descriptive, hortatory; and it will issue reading lists, informing and patriotic. And the collections and lists will by no means be limited to the political, still less to the martial, aspects or incidents of the war. They will, even more especially, illustrate and promote the service open to the ordinary citizen in industry, home economics and relief-work. It may, as in places it already does, aid directly in the registration of recruits, or agencies, for various forms of service. It will, as in cases it has already done, widen its actual loans of books and periodicals to include nearby army posts or outposts; this, independently of the service it may be asked to do in relation to any national effort of this sort. It may even, as in the case of Dayton, proffer the services of members of its staff, without loss of pay, in productive or relief work.

And on the historical side it will have a distinct duty: to gather and preserve every evidence of the participation of its community and of the citizens composing it. The importance of this need is recognized by the creation of a committee of historians which among other efforts will prepare for circulation among our libraries pamphlets describing the material to be preserved most solicitously. [See letter from the secretary of the American Historical Association to the secretary of the A. L. A. appended.]

All these various activities are such as would occur to any trained librarian, and need no argument. As illustrations, however, of the actual initiation of some of them by typical libraries, we attach extracts from statements invited from five libraries as to what they are already doing or planning [St. Louis, Springfield, Min-

neapolis, Dayton and Washington]. Various other forms of services will doubtless develop; and from time to time be commended to libraries by the state library commissions.

Useful in themselves for the exigency at hand these services may incidentally strengthen each library with its community by proof that it is something more than a building and a collection of books for normal times; that it is in fact an *organism*, sensitive to new sprung impulses and emergency needs of the community, and not merely responsive to them, but with potential energies within itself, capable of invigorating and guiding the effort to meet them. It should show that our library system, now an accepted axiom in times of peace, is also an indispensable equipment in time of war, and that the provision for its maintenance and enlargement should be enhanced rather than diminished during the present exigency; as, indeed, its opportunities are, not merely for war time service proper, but for the sort of service that it renders at all times. There is a disposition to forego various social activities and amusements. In proportion as they forego them people will have greater leisure for reading. Numbers of them will be eager to improve their efficiency for "war work" by the study of books of a practical sort. But there will be other cravings also. The gravity of the time tends to seriousness of thought and of purpose, and this to the reading of serious books. Any thoughtful consideration of the present issues must take people back into the past, any susceptibility to the times must take them away from the trivial. They will be moved to consider the "philosophy" of things, and in a mood to be affected by the expressions of man in his deeper and his most artistic moments. They will be, therefore, peculiarly in need of just what we most rejoice to give them. And they should not be prevented from having it, nor we, in the amplest measure, from giving it.

Your committee concludes with this emphasis not because you have any doubts

requiring it, but because there is fear that municipalities may be disposed to curtail appropriations for our libraries, as a measure of war time economy. We can scarcely believe such an intention to exist; but if it does it must be resisted, strenuously.

It would be most illogical. In calling our citizens into its service the state asks them to perfect themselves for it. In certain essentials our libraries offer the best means of perfecting them; and the means they offer are direct, simple, and familiar. They are free. They reach all classes, every community, continuously; yet they are organized in a system which assures them the guidance of a central intelligence and authority. They are the *only* agency which combines these elements.

Our people are urged to refrain from waste in recreation and luxuries. Our libraries offer them a welcomed substitute. They will be called upon for sacrifice, bereavement; to many of them books will yield the best solace.

And meantime they are cautioned against hysteria. The best resistant is books. And a library which furnishes them, profusely yet discriminatingly, is a great "stabilizer," aiding to keep us aloft and erect in a vortex of dizzying currents and counter currents.

But it is also, with the school system, a fundamental institution of our democracy. It is an essential part of the apparatus which gives our democracy such efficiency as it has. With democracy itself on trial, we cannot afford to have it appear that in a crisis such as this its fundamental institutions are set aside, their normal processes suspended, their normal activities curtailed. Rather should such a crisis bring them into greater relief, a more active operation, and a more evident utility.

Recommendations: The recommendations of your committee are these:

1. That a War committee be appointed to continue the investigation of this subject in its various phases, and under gen-

eral direction of the Executive Board, to represent the Association in the various relations which it involves.

2. That as such a committee should take benefit of the discussions of this conference, it be appointed immediately, by the present Executive, instead of by the next incoming Board.

3. That for convenience and efficiency in the executive part of its duties its membership be limited to seven; but that it have power to create a larger committee, advisory and auxiliary to itself, also sub-committees from within or without its membership.

4. That for its guidance and that of the incoming Board upon one important prospective activity, there be discussion by the Association as to the participation of libraries and of the Association in the supply of reading matter to the troops, and such an expression as shall enable the committee to speak authoritatively for the Association in any appeal that it issues, or undertaking that it enters into.

5. As a basis for such a discussion and expression we recommend consideration of the following resolution:

(a) That the American Library Association welcomes the information reported as to the aims of various agencies in the supply of reading matter to the troops; and that it will gladly aid to develop and especially to co-ordinate the service proposed by them; assisting as an Association and through libraries individually in the preparation of lists and in the collection, scrutiny and organization of material.

(b) That it assumes that the efforts of the several agencies may by conference be so differentiated as to avoid both confusing competition and unnecessary duplication. It assumes also that consistently with their organization and aims in other respects, they will especially welcome such a co-operation on the part of the Association as shall insure skilled service in the actual administration of the collections, without which, in the judgment of the Association, full advantage cannot be taken of the opportunity.

6. If, in addition to various measures of co-operation with other agencies concerned in the supply of reading matter to the troops, there shall appear to the A. L. A. War Committee a prospect of funds for the erection, equipment and maintenance, *under the auspices of the Association*, of distinct library buildings with suitable collections and expert service in each of the sixteen main cantonments, the committee is especially authorized to represent the Association in soliciting the necessary funds, material and service, in all measures of organization, and in the actual administration of the libraries themselves.

HERBERT PUTNAM, Chairman,
ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK,
R. R. BOWKER,
GRATIA A. COUNTRYMAN,
MATTHEW S. DUDGEON,
ALICE S. TYLER,
J. I. WYER, JR.

APPENDICES TO REPORT OF PRELIMINARY WAR LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Library Military Auxiliary

A plan to assist in the training, education and recreation of American soldiers on sea and land, in camps and hospitals.
By Martha Wilson, State Department of Education, St. Paul, Minn.

Need for books. 1. Young men are giving up their educational and professional training to serve their country. The country should help them to continue their studies as far as may be.

2. Many young men will seek advancement while in the service. Books should be provided to help in this preparation.

3. The entrance of the United States into the war is based on an idea. We can help foster ideas by books.

4. Every soldier has some leisure time. Books are needed to help him make profitable and interesting use of this margin.

5. Reports from American soldiers now in the trenches state that the men are suffering mental deterioration from lack of diversion and stimulation of thought.

6. The value of a library in a community in increasing the comfort and effi-

ciency of individuals is a proven fact in American life today.

To soldiers on sea and land; to nurses in camp and hospital, carefully chosen books would be of highest service in providing direct aid in work, opportunity for profitable employment of leisure time, and wholesome recreation.

Need for a library auxiliary. Trained library service is needed to organize and direct the work, that it may become an educational and efficient recreational factor.

Miscellaneous contributions of books and magazines to camps are of slight value at best, and are often impediments.

The Y. M. C. A. workers state that books, as part of their recreational activities, have not reached their fullest usefulness, for lack of organization and direction.

Suggested plan of organization for a library auxiliary. Appointment by the President of a Chief of the Library Auxiliary who would be empowered to organize the work, employ necessary assistants, inaugurate a campaign for securing volunteer aid, books and magazines, designate regional distributing agencies, enlist manual training departments in work of making traveling library boxes, formulate rules for distribution, transportation and use of books, organize publicity work and outline all other details.

The Library Auxiliary would work with all other army and navy agencies, the Red Cross and the Y. M. C. A., and help their work at every point.

Maintenance. The work may be put on a stable and efficient basis by a contribution from the General War Maintenance Fund. The Chief of the Library Auxiliary would augment this amount by contributions of books and magazines, and by use of volunteer service.

Resources. The American Library Association has a permanent organization and a considerable membership. This organization should be drawn upon for service.

Libraries throughout the country, and library commissions should be used as regional distributing stations, and should

be asked to furnish service to adjacent camps and hospitals.

Kind of books needed. 1. Educational books, including some modern texts when requested.

2. Books of information covering military science and tactics, popular mechanics, engineering, submarine warfare, aeronautics, and other subjects of practical value.

3. Recreative reading, including fiction, interesting biography, travel, modern history, popular discussions of modern subjects, inspirational books, some essays and books of high literary merit, and books of easy French.

Books would be bought and supplied on a utility and educational basis, keeping in mind the needs to be met; and only those books furnished which were live, of known value and interest.

Distribution. The Chief of the Library Auxiliary would designate regional distributing agencies, and library stations would be established in all camps, training ships and hospitals.

As far as possible, the needs of each place would be considered, and the desired books furnished. Traveling libraries would be furnished to all troop transports.

Wherever Y. M. C. A. activities are carried on, the local distribution of the books would be assigned to them, or if possible a library field worker would be sent.

Publicity work outlined by the library auxiliary would be carried on to bring the books into fullest use.

Memorandum relative to collection and distribution of books and periodicals for the mobilization camps

By R. H. Johnston, librarian of the Bureau of Railway Economics, Washington, D. C.

Assuming coöperation on the part of the railway companies and on the part of the War Department:

In general, collection should be taken care of by a local librarian, designated by

the A. L. A. committee, and the material placed in the hands of the soldiers under the supervision of regimental chaplains or the Y. M. C. A., in coöperation with a librarian in the vicinity, also designated by the A. L. A. committee.

First: Headquarters should be established, preferably at Washington, and department headquarters in charge of a librarian designated by the A. L. A. committee established for:

- Northeastern Department, Boston (?)
- Eastern Department, New York (?)
- Southeastern Department, Atlanta (?)
- Central Department, Chicago (?)
- Southern Department, Kansas City (?)
- Western Department, San Francisco (?)

Second: Donations in bulk from publishers and such sources should be requested by and forwarded to headquarters at Washington, and subsequently distributed to department headquarters. General donations from the public should be forwarded to the department headquarters. Communication between librarians in charge of department headquarters should arrange for distribution of excess material.

Third: Collection in each department should be made by the local librarian in charge. Notices posted in the libraries, local notes in the newspapers and a card in the railway station should call attention to the work the A. L. A. is doing. A notice could be carried by the various employees' magazines published by the railway companies and the employees' organizations. The notice in the railway station should call attention to either a receptacle furnished by a local benefactor or possibly by the individual railway company, or failing this, state that the station agent will accept any material handed into his custody for the soldiers. The accumulations should be collected by the local library which would also prepare packages for shipment under a frank acceptable to the railway company and bearing the address of the department headquarters. These packages should be delivered to the baggageman at the station.

Fourth: Department headquarters

should withdraw unsuitable and excess material, endeavoring to locate the latter with other department headquarters, and, under a similar frank addressed to the mobilization camps, deliver the packages to the proper railway company.

Fifth: The librarian in charge at nearest point to mobilization camp should then be advised of shipment and get in touch with the regimental chaplain or the Y. M. C. A., as may be arranged with the War Department.

Sixth: This local librarian should keep close watch on the special needs of the camp, requesting from the department headquarters extra copies of books or periodicals specifically wanted and take reasonable care to observe that losses of important material be repaired.

Seventh: While this procedure would fall into natural routine, the initial work of knitting together the librarian and the railway company at the point of collection, and the librarian and the War Department at the actual point of contact, would require a certain amount of inspection. An occasional lapse in coöperation as the work proceeded might also require personal attention. If possible two or three men should be designated for such work.

Eighth: Such inspection might reasonably be relied on through the agencies of the Santa Fé Reading Rooms, the Baltimore and Ohio Traveling Libraries, the Seaboard Air Line Traveling Libraries, and the library of the Bureau of Railway Economics. The staff of the library of the Bureau of Railway Economics can be counted upon for such service.

Ninth: Reasonable care should be taken at the original collecting points to avoid the transmission of material that would be classed as unsuitable. The committee should give rather definite instructions to the local librarian to prevent waste of effort further along the line. Similar care should be taken between the department headquarters to prevent overloading with material such as the Saturday Evening Post, of which enough is plenty.

It is assumed that as little as possible

of cataloging and other routine library methods will be employed and that it is not expected that any of the material will ever be returned from the camps. It would nevertheless seem advisable that each book or periodical bear a mark of ownership with a view to securing its use to the greatest number. The librarian in charge of the department library should watch closely for any lack of literature deemed suitable for the camps in his department and make demands on the other departments or Washington headquarters for such literature, but it would not be considered necessary that he should maintain an official record other than by number of the material passing through his hands.

It is also assumed, as the railway companies carry both the express and the mail, that little would be gained by supplementing the service of the railway companies by a request for the use of a frank from the Post Office Department or the express companies, but it might be possible to secure from the Post Office Department the use of a frank for correspondence between Washington headquarters and the department headquarters.

Function of the State Library Commission in war time

By Matthew S. Dudgeon, Secretary, Wisconsin Free Library Commission.

I. **General function.** Primarily it is the function of each state library commission, as supervising executive of all the public libraries of the state, to see that every public library under its jurisdiction promptly and effectively performs all the functions which are agreed upon as the war time functions of the public library.

II. **Communications, suggestions, and appeals to the public libraries.** It is the function of the state commission in performing its supervisory duties:

1. To send out an appeal to each of the libraries of the state urging that it act as an agency of patriotic publicity, and by posting and free distribution promulgate the special literature of the war, such as:

(a) President's messages and proclamations; (b) Federal acts, such as the registration act, etc.; (c) Governor's proclamation as to economy, as to food products, as to registration day, etc.; (d) Bulletins and posters and other communications bearing on the war issued by the United States department of agriculture, and other federal departments; (e) Bulletins and posters issued by state agricultural authorities; (f) Pamphlets, leaflets, posters, bulletins, federal and state, from the Red Cross Society, and from voluntary associations dealing with all subjects relating directly or indirectly to war economy, food products, etc.

(In Wisconsin it has been necessary for the commission itself to send out some of the materials that are listed in order to be sure that the small libraries receive this material. The material which we have found it necessary to send directly to the libraries includes: The Governor's proclamation relative to organizing local councils of defense, etc.; governor's proclamation relative to registration; copy of registration regulations, copy of federal act providing for registration; posters urging the purchase of Liberty Bonds, etc., etc., etc.)

2. To suggest that each public library open the library building as an assembly place for every meeting having a patriotic purpose, such as Red Cross societies, nurses' associations, councils for defense, etc.

3. To suggest that the librarian offer her own services or the services of some of her staff to assist in organizing, filing, recording and indexing systems involved in the work of Red Cross societies, and other local organizations, needing such help, etc.

4. To suggest the purchase of books and other material for the circulating department of the public library and to furnish this by sending lists of timely books and other material on such subjects as patriotism and the flag, military and naval training, United States and the war, etc., checked for first choice by small libraries, etc.

5. Suggestions for the accumulation of

historically valuable material growing out of the war.

III. **Every traveling library station** should be a publicity agency and be put upon the mailing list for state publications, or, if this is impractical, each station should be furnished with the important bulletins, posters, etc., such as are sent to the public libraries.

IV. **Circulation of books and material timely in character.** 1. By offering to the public libraries smaller groups of the best books upon current subjects. (This to give special aid to the small library which is not able to make purchase of current books at this time.)

2. To place in traveling library stations and send to traveling library stations books of special timely interest.

V. **Circulation of books in military mobilization camps, training camps, army posts, etc.** All agree that there is definite need for circulation of books among the individuals centered in military units in various places. During the Mexican border troubles and since the mobilization of troops of the present war, this commission has not succeeded in getting sufficient response from military authorities to make this circulation a success. The difficulty is that there seems to be no officer, organization, or individual, who is willing to take the responsibility for the custody of the books. Possibly the Army Y. M. C. A. may work out this problem.

Recommendations. It seems to be necessary to take up with some controlling authority or organization and thrash out a method of coöperation by which the resources of the various states which the state authorities are ready and anxious to devote to the use of the soldiers can be made available.

The Libraries and history

W. G. Leland, Secretary American Historical Association, to Secretary Utley, May 3, 1917.

Last week a group of pretty representative history men met in Washington to

discuss the problem of what members of our profession could do for the country at the present time. Our deliberations resulted in establishing a National Board for Historical Service. I enclose a copy of the resolutions which sum up the work of the conference. We are not yet ready to give the matter full publicity, for we are busy in securing the support of other members of our profession throughout the country. We expect, however, that a majority of the board will spend the summer in Washington engaged in such activities as may seem useful. It has seemed to us in the discussions we have had thus far that we should join hands with the libraries in two important activities. One of these is the collection and preservation of material that will be of service to the future historian; the other is the preparation of critical and descriptive reading lists for the use of libraries of various kinds, of reading circles, of women's clubs and of individuals.

With regard to the first of these activities, I have written to a number of libraries and historical societies asking what they are doing to collect and preserve war material. The replies we have thus far received show that few libraries are making systematic effort to collect the fugitive material of local interest that will be of special value later on. Most of them content themselves with taking what is sent to them from the various publicity bureaus and securing some of the more important published works. We are thinking of preparing a circular of suggestions having especially in mind what historical societies ought to do, and I wonder if we could not coöperate with the Library Association in considering the question from the point of view of the general library.

Dr. Bowerman has suggested to me that it might be possible for us to coöperate with the A. L. A. in the preparation of critical and descriptive reading lists, varying in length and character according to the usage to which they would be destined. He thought that possibly the Library Association might be willing to issue imprint editions of such reading lists, which would, of course, afford a very effective method of distributing them.

I shall be very grateful if you can give me your opinion with regard to these two matters.

There is one other matter on which I should like also to have your opinion. We are planning a series of small pamphlets dealing with the historical phases of present issues. These pamphlets will probably sell for five or ten cents each. We shall

have little trouble in making arrangements with the publishers if we can get reasonable assurance of defraying the cost of manufacture. Do you imagine that any considerable number of libraries would be willing to subscribe to the series, and would some of the larger libraries be likely to want several copies of each pamphlet? I am anxious to have your opinion on this before I take any steps to canvass the libraries for subscriptions.

Yours very sincerely,

W. G. LELAND.

Resolutions adopted at Washington, April 29, 1917, for the establishment of a National Board for Historical Service.

As an emergency measure, to serve until action by the American Historical Association, the undersigned, meeting in Washington upon invitation by the Carnegie Institution of Washington through its Department of Historical Research, have adopted the following resolutions:

Resolved:

I. That there be formed a National Board for Historical Service.

II. That the headquarters of the board shall be in Washington, D. C.

III. That the purpose of the National Board for Historical Service shall be:

(a) To facilitate the coordination and development of historical activities in the United States in such a way as to aid the federal and the state governments through direct personal service or through affiliation with their various branches.

(b) To aid in supplying the public with trustworthy information of historical or similar character through the preparation of reading lists and bibliographies, through the collection of historical material, and through the giving of lectures and of systematic instruction, and in other ways.

(c) To aid, encourage, and organize state, regional, and local committees, as well as special committees for the furtherance of the above ends, and to cooperate with other agencies and organizations, especially in the general field of social studies.

IV. That the board shall be composed of at least nine members who shall select a chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, and treasurer from their own number, and that the said board shall have power to add to its membership, to fill vacancies, to appoint advisory and associate members, to organize affiliated or subsidiary boards of

committees, to receive and disburse moneys, and to perform such other acts as may be necessary for the accomplishment of the purposes herein stated.

V. That the board, until further action by itself in conformity with these resolutions, shall be composed of the following:

Victor S. Clark, of Washington; Robert D. W. Connor, of Raleigh, N. C.; Carl Russell Fish, of Madison, Wisconsin; Chas. D. Hazen, of New York City; Chas. H. Hull, of Ithaca, N. Y.; Gaillard Hunt, of Washington; Waldo G. Leland, of Washington; James T. Shotwell, of New York City; Frederick J. Turner, of Cambridge, Mass.

Adopted at Washington, D. C., April 29, 1917: Henry E. Bourne, Edmund C. Burnett, Victor S. Clark, George M. Dutcher, Guy S. Ford, Chas. D. Hazen, Charles H. Hull, Gaillard Hunt, J. Franklin Jameson, H. Barrett Learned, Waldo G. Leland, Albert E. McKinley, Andrew C. McLaughlin, Thomas Walker Page, Frederic L. Paxson, James T. Shotwell, Frederick J. Turner.

After the reading of the report and supplementary remarks by Dr. Putnam, in which he spoke of suggestions of cooperation received from the office of Mr. Herbert Hoover, from Mr. Raymond B. Fosdick, chairman of the Committee on Camp Activities of the War Department, from the Playground and Recreation Association of America, the Boy Scouts of America, the Young Men's Christian Association, and other organizations, Dr. Frank P. Hill moved the acceptance of the report and the adoption of the recommendations and the resolutions as presented, which motion was after the discussion unanimously passed. The president called for full discussion for the benefit of the working committee.

Mr. J. RITCHIE PATTERSON, of the Chicago Public Library, described the work done by the library he represented, how that more than twelve thousand books had been donated by the citizens of Chicago, collected by the Chicago Public Library, assorted, prepared and distributed to the soldiers and sailors at Fort Sheridan, the Great Lakes Naval Training Station, and other camps.

Mr. THEODORE WESLEY KOCH, chief of the order division of the Library of

Congress, who had been in England for several months, had prepared a paper for the Conference on

BOOKS IN CAMP, TRENCH AND HOSPITAL
(See p. 103)

which was at this point called for, and which in the absence of the writer was read (in an abridged form, as the full paper was too long for the time available) by Dr. Arthur E. Bostwick, of the St. Louis Public Library.

The following letter, addressed to Mr. Koch, was read by the secretary:

"Avalon"

Princeton, New Jersey,
June 5, 1917.

My dear Mr. Koch:

Your letter of May 5th, with its enclosure, reached me in London just before we sailed for America. There was no time to answer it then, and there has been no time for writing really since I got back. I have read with much care and interest your typewritten statement in regard to "Books in Camp, Trench and Hospital." It needs no introduction. All the arguments for giving a supply of good reading to soldiers as a part of the spiritual munitions of war are lucidly and strongly put in your paper. One thing this war has certainly taught the world, and that is that victory does not depend solely upon "big battalions," but upon large and strong and brave hearts and minds in the battalions. The morale of the army is the hidden force which uses the weapons of war to the best advantage, and nothing is more important in keeping up this morale than a supply of really good reading for the men in their hours of enforced inactivity, whether they are in campaign preparing for the battle, or in the trench waiting to renew the battle again, or in hospital wounded and trying to regain strength of body and mind to go back to the battle for which they have been enlisted. Human fellowship, good books, and music are three of the best medicines and tonics in the world. I believe these things very thoroughly, and you can use this expression of belief in any way which may seem to you helpful. I should like to do all that I can for the good cause. . . .

Faithfully yours,
HENRY VAN DYKE.

Mr. Theodore Wesley Koch.

Mr. WILLIAM ORR, educational secretary of the National War Work Council of

the Young Men's Christian Association, who had been so good as to leave his pressing duties and come to the Conference on the invitation of the president, was here introduced and spoke of

COÖPERATION IN THE WAR WORK BETWEEN THE

Y. M. C. A. AND THE A. L. A.

(See p. 111)

Discussion of various aspects of war work which libraries might properly undertake here became general, Mr. M. S. Dudgeon, R. P. Bliss, J. F. Daniels, C. H. Milam, G. A. Deveneau, H. O. Severance, G. F. Bowerman, R. R. Bowker, and others participating.

[Inasmuch as many of the plans and measures proposed and discussed have since been adopted by the A. L. A. War service committee, who will as a part of its duties report in detail in due time, it has been thought unnecessary to report here in full the discussion.—EDITOR.]

Following the discussion and the adoption of the report of the Preliminary war committee, together with the accompanying recommendations, the president appointed the following as the A. L. A. War service committee: J. I. Wyer, Jr.; E. H. Anderson, A. E. Bostwick, F. P. Hill, M. S. Dudgeon, Alice S. Tyler and Gratia A. Countryman. Miss Tyler was unable to serve, and Miss Electra C. Doren was appointed in her place.

Miss THERESA HITCHLER proposed that the Association members contribute to an ambulance fund for the purchase and operation of an "A. L. A. War Ambulance."

The PRESIDENT appointed her as a committee of one to solicit funds for such an ambulance, and stated that a certain member of the Association, understanding that such a proposal would be brought before the members of the Association, wished to contribute \$500 thereto.

The session adjourned at 12:45 p. m.

THIRD GENERAL SESSION

(Saturday morning, June 23, in

Macauley's Theatre)

President BROWN presided.

The PRESIDENT called attention to the reports of officers and committees which had been printed in advance of the Con-

ference and distributed to members. These reports included those of the secretary, treasurer, trustees of the endowment funds, the A. L. A. Publishing Board, and the following standing committees: Library administration, Library training, Public documents, Federal and state relations, Coördination, and Bookbinding; and of the special committee, the Decimal Classification advisory committee. The report of the committee on Work with the blind was read by title. All of the above reports were accepted and ordered printed as a part of the Conference proceedings.

(For these reports, see p. 247 and following.)

At the request of Mr. C. H. Gould, chairman of the committee on Coördination, who was unable to be present, Secretary Utley moved that the code of rules for inter-library loans, which constituted the report of the committee on Coördination, be adopted by the Association. The motion was seconded and carried.

The report of the Finance committee was read by the Secretary.

(See p. 297)

The Secretary read the report of the Nominating committee, in which was presented the list of nominees for officers for the coming year,¹ and announced that the election would be held on the following Tuesday.

The PRESIDENT announced the committee on Resolutions, as follows: George F. Bowerman, Washington, D. C.; Marilla W. Freeman, Memphis, Tenn., and John E. Goodwin, Austin, Tex.

Mr. J. W. DIETZ, educational director of the Western Electric Company, Chicago, and president of the Association of Corporation Schools, gave an address on

TRAINING MEN DURING BUSINESS HOURS

(See p. 114)

Dr. W. T. SWINGLE, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, was detained in Washington by war work, and his paper,

CHINESE BOOKS AND LIBRARIES

(See p. 121)

was read by title only and ordered printed.

Mr. JOSEPH F. DANIELS, librarian of the public library at Riverside, California, delivered an address on

THE COUNTY FREE LIBRARY SERVICE AS OPERATED AT RIVERSIDE

(See p. 125)

Left over from the previous session was a paper sent from England, through Mr. Koch, which had been written by Dr. C. T. HAGBERG WRIGHT, librarian of the London Library, describing in detail the origin and progress of the supplying of

BOOKS FOR RUSSIAN PRISONERS OF WAR IN GERMANY

(See p. 108)

The reading of this paper supplemented Mr. Koch's account of the four distributing organizations in Great Britain.

Mr. R. R. BOWKER, editor of *Library Journal*, gave an address on "Russia," closing with the motion that a message of greeting and good will be sent by the Association to the executive officials of Russia. The motion was seconded by Dr. Putnam, as chairman of the Committee on International Relations, and adopted by a unanimous rising vote.

The message as later prepared and sent by letter in the care of the United States Ambassador to Russia, was as follows:

MESSAGE TO RUSSIA

The American Library Association in conference at Louisville sends greetings to those in the new republic of Russia who, having held true to the democratic faith, are now beginning to realize their hopes for the future of their great country. The building up of a National Library during the past century to the third place in the library world was a notable achievement under old conditions, and the pioneer spirit shown in the recent foundation of a library school at Moscow and in the library enterprise of the Trans-Siberian railway gives promise that under the new conditions of freedom Russia will make the development of public libraries an important factor in the education of the people. In a new world made safe for democracy, America and Russia should go

¹This report is printed in the Bulletin for May, 1917. Miss Underhill declined nomination as second vice-president and Linda A. Eastman, Cleveland Public Library, was nominated in her stead.

hand in hand in this great work, and the American Library Association, mindful of the indebtedness of this country and of the world to Russian literature as an inspiration of democracy, pledges its aid to its Russian brethren in paralleling in Russia the library progress which in the last half century has done so much for America.

Mr. Bowker's address is printed in full in *Library Journal* for August, 1917. Speaking of library conditions in Russia, he said:

"It was only one hundred years before 1914 that the Imperial Library, which celebrated its centenary in that year, began; yet it is the third largest library in the world, with which the Library of Congress is now making a close race. It is second only to the Paris National Library and the British Museum. There they accomplish the remarkable feat of counting the 2,600,000 books in a single attack by an organization which was carefully planned in advance. That is the center of library Russia, but not a center in our sense, because very little goes out from it in the way of national stimulus. Nor does that come from the great university libraries of Moscow, Kiev, nor from such book collections as has Odessa, but it radiates rather from the humble beginnings of the new University of Moscow, a liberal vocation institution, founded by a private citizen of wealth, who assured through it a welcome to professors and students of liberal faith driven from the ancient university by government tyranny. It corresponds somewhat to our city colleges. That is the home of the progressives; and here there has been started under the guidance of our friend, Madame Haffkin-Hamburger, a library school which should prove a radiating center for library progress throughout Russia.

"In Siberia the Trans-Siberian railway has developed a unique library system. Starting from Irkutsk, where there is a central library of 40,000 volumes, two library cars go, one east and one west, along the railway. These are traveling library cars, equipped with a library stack, a berth room for the librarian, a tiny read-

ing room and other facilities. These cars go from station to station, showing the local people what a library is and may be, and from that may come a great library development in Siberia. We think of Siberia as a place of exile for political prisoners, the place of the "pole of cold," a frozen waste; but as a matter of fact it is the Canada of Russia. You will recall that the Canadian authorities at Ottawa, in conjunction with our Department of Agriculture, developed a new wheat, which extended the wheat belt of Canada fifty miles to the north; and with such development as that Siberia is to become one of the greatest granaries of the world. With the new political development in Russia and Siberia and the education of the people that will follow, will come, I am sure, the greatest opportunity for library development that presents itself in the world today."

Following this address the session was adjourned.

FOURTH GENERAL SESSION

(Saturday evening, June 23,
Macauley's Theatre)

President BROWN presided.

The

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON IMPORTATION OF BOOKS

(See p. 304)

was read by the secretary of the committee, Dr. M. L. RANEY, of Johns Hopkins University Library, and on motion of Mr. Bowker was accepted, together with the recommendations contained therein, and a special vote of thanks was tendered to the committee for their work. A motion that the committee be continued was also unanimously agreed to.

Mr. P. L. WINDSOR, chairman of the committee, presented a preliminary committee report on

STANDARDIZATION OF LIBRARIES AND CERTIFICATION OF LIBRARIANS

(See p. 135)

On motion of Mr. Ranck the report

was accepted and the recommendations adopted.

Mr. WILLIAM F. YUST, of Rochester, spoke of the activities of a committee of the New York Library Association to secure certification and standardization in the State of New York and outlined briefly the proposed legislation which it has been suggested to the regents should be secured.

Mr. W. T. PORTER, of Cincinnati, spoke of certain recently attempted legislation in Ohio.

The president was obliged at this point to announce that time did not permit further discussion on this subject, as part of the evening had been set apart for reports from members of the War service committee.

Dr. PUTNAM at this point requested that he might rise to a question of personal privilege. He thought it had doubtless been noticed that most of the members of the War service committee had been appointed from the preliminary committee, and that it did not look well for the two who were left off, Mr. Bowker and himself.

"Having served with complacency," he said, "on the committee which outlined opportunities, we seem to be shirking the committee which is to do the work. I would like to say in our behalf that we were not so craven as that and we expect to do work which, in the judgment of those who have it in prospect for us, can be better done if we are off of the committee rather than on it. In regard to the two places on the committee which we had occupied on the preliminary committee, it had been foreseen from the outset that their service would be indispensable to the working of the committee; but there is no one of us who expects to escape work. If I might interpret the intention or expectation of the administration, this initial committee, called the working committee, is only an overhead committee. The plan recommended by the preliminary committee assumes auxiliary committees everywhere, in every relation. The executive working committee had to be small; the personnel had to be selected with refer-

ence to prompt communication and prompt action by the committee. It also had to be selected with reference to the possibility of grouping part of it for consultation and action on certain phases of the activity. The work actually to be done will require almost every person who can be brought into effective relation to it. In the meantime Mr. Bowker and I beg to extend to you our services."

The president called upon Mr. J. I. WYER, Jr., chairman of the War service committee, who made a short report on what the committee had already accomplished and what they had planned.

Dr. ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK, chairman of the sub-committee on publicity, read a statement which had been prepared on library war work for the press.

The session was then adjourned.

FIFTH GENERAL SESSION

(Monday evening, June 25, in Macauley's Theatre)

Mr. HARRISON W. CRAVER, first vice-president, presided.

Mr. WYER was called on to give a report of the activities of the War service committee during the two preceding days. After briefly outlining the steps taken, and naming the special committees and sub-committees which the main committee had appointed, he called in turn for reports from several of these sub-committees.

Dr. FRANK P. HILL, chairman of the sub-committee on finance, outlined briefly financial plans and had "One Dollar a Month" subscription blanks distributed, which scheme, suggested, he said, by Miss Rathbone, permitted every member of the Association to have a part in the library war work.

Mr. GEORGE A. DEVENEAU, of the University of Illinois, displayed some posters of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, relating to food conservation, and commented briefly upon them.

Mr. CARL H. MILAM, of Birmingham, outlined plans for a library war work, which it was intended would be observed

some time in the autumn by every library in the country, and which would give a better conception of the public library and library service to every man, woman and child in the land.

Mr. M. S. DUDGEON, of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, chairman of a subcommittee on state organizations, spoke on behalf of his own committee and of the subcommittee on local organizations, Gratia A. Countryman, chairman. He emphasized the desire of these subcommittees to mobilize the book resources of the entire country so that they would produce sufficient books for the training camps.

Dr. GEORGE F. BOWERMAN, of Washington, chairman of a subcommittee to prepare a library war manual or handbook, outlined plans for this publication, the purpose of which would be to detail those things which libraries and librarians can do to help in the war work.

The desirability of wider circulation of the "Official Bulletin" of the Federal Government among public and university libraries was discussed and a resolution was referred to the Executive Board to the effect that it was the sense of the Association that the "Official Bulletin" should be distributed to all libraries of the United States and that the subcommittee on publicity of the War service committee do its utmost to have this action carried into effect.

LIBRARY PUBLICITY

The remainder of the program was devoted to the subject of library publicity.

Mr. W. H. KERR, chairman of the A. L. A. Publicity committee, presented the following report on its recent survey of library publicity:

THE GIST OF THE A. L. A. PUBLICITY SURVEY (See p. 130)

The publicity work of state library commissions was considered by MRS. ELIZABETH CLAYPOOL EARL, president of the Indiana Public Library Commission, in a paper entitled

LIBRARY COMMISSION PUBLICITY (See p. 132)

Mr. C. H. COMPTON, of the Seattle Public Library, spoke on

A PUBLICITY EXPERT FOR LIBRARIES (See p. 133)

Mr. CARL HUNT, of Indianapolis, editor of *Associated Advertising*, the official organ of the Associated Advertising Clubs of the World, gave an address on

A PROGRAM FOR LIBRARY ADVERTISING (See p. 127)

After Mr. HUNT, at the conclusion of his address, had very kindly answered a number of questions, the session was adjourned.

SIXTH GENERAL SESSION

(Wednesday morning, June 27, in
Macauley's Theatre)

President BROWN presided.

Memorials for three recently deceased former officers of the Association, which had been prepared by specially appointed committees, were read at this time and adopted by a rising vote. The text of these memorials here follows:

WILLIAM I. FLETCHER

Member of the American Library Association 1878-1917, President 1892-1893.

The death of William I. Fletcher, which has been communicated to us since the meeting of this conference, has removed from the library profession one of its earliest, most active and most useful members. Born at Burlington, Vt., in 1844, he devoted a long life to library work of the highest standard of excellence and he contributed in large measure to making librarianship a profession. As chairman of the Publishing Board, he had much to do with shaping the early and the permanent work of the board. Through his attendance at twenty-three A. L. A. Conferences beginning with that of 1877, as by his bibliographical work, he came to know and be known by great numbers of library workers and his sympathy and helpfulness expressed in his characteristically gracious manner, were as much at the disposal of the humblest as of the most emi-

nent of his associates. He had a keen and eager mind, an affectionate nature, an unremitting patience in bibliographical detail, a marvelous capacity for work. He lived to become librarian emeritus of Amherst College, to see his son installed as his successor and to witness in its early stages the growth of the new library building which his work as librarian helped to earn for the college. As health failed, his affection for his library colleagues continued undimmed and while he faced with faith the long journey which he knew would soon come, it was his earnest hope that he might once more greet his old friends and make new friends at this Louisville Conference. His last days were solaced by the devotion of a loving daughter who had dedicated herself to the service of his declining years and he left behind to his children, to the college he had served and to the library profession an unblemished name and a life's service which cannot soon be forgotten.

R. R. BOWKER,
C. W. ANDREWS,
Committee.

HENRY MUNSON UTLEY

With the passing of Mr. Henry Munson Utley, late librarian of the Detroit Public Library, the organized library world lost one of its sturdiest and most faithful adherents, one of its pioneer members.

Graduating from the University of Michigan in the year of 1861, when the nation faced a great crisis, he enlisted quickly in the service for public welfare by entering upon a journalistic career in Detroit, where his sober judgment and sincerity were rewarded with the editorship of a local influential paper.

In 1881 he became secretary of the Detroit Board of Education, followed by his appointment as chief librarian of the Detroit Library in 1885.

Mr. Utley entered upon this new field of service with a valuable knowledge of the municipal life of his city and the ripened judgment of a man whose energy had

reached beyond the experimental stage and was ready for constructive work.

Mr. Utley identified himself at once with the American Library Association and applied its progressive principles in the organization of his own institution which quickly gained ground in usefulness and public support. He remained at the head of the Detroit Library for over a quarter of a century and his service was one of extraordinary devotion, patience and modesty.

Equally unstinted was his loyalty to the library profession at large, and he was honored accordingly. He served as president of the national body and his membership on the various American Library Association committees testifies to the high esteem in which his judgment and counsel were held.

His name stands first on the honor roll of those who labored for the organization and success of the Michigan Library Association, whose first president he was and whose chief officer he continued to be for many years.

With the rapid, almost revolutionary changes in public service and educational standards of our day, the record and contribution of the individual may soon be forgotten, but the rugged figure of Mr. Utley as he appeared among us—his kindly personality, will long be treasured among those who came to know his reserved, yet lovable, nature. He was one of "the old guard," and in paying tribute to his memory, we honor one whose sympathy and tolerance with human society in all its variations never faltered, and one whose career was singularly free from egotisms and self-exploitations.

ADAM STROHM,
FRANK P. HILL,
MARY C. SPENCER,
Committee.

ANDERSON HOYT HOPKINS

The Association has learned with profound regret that Anderson Hoyt Hopkins died on March 21st, 1917. Mr. Hopkins was

one of its life members, and for many years an active participant in its labors. He entered on library work while a student at the University of Michigan, was assistant librarian of that university after his graduation in 1892, and later assistant librarian of The John Crerar Library of Chicago at the time of its organization. In 1904 he became librarian of the newly organized public library of Louisville, Kentucky, and less than two years later was called to the librarianship of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, where he continued until compelled by illness to retire from active duty in June, 1908.

At the time of his retirement he was treasurer of the A. L. A., and for some years had been a valued member of the Catalog Rules Committee. Although removed from daily contact with library affairs, he was by no means forgotten by his former associates. We treasure his memory as a broad-minded, sane, warm-hearted, and wise colleague, a faithful friend, and a farseeing pioneer in library development.

W. W. BISHOP,
Committee.

Mr. BOWKER presented the following resolution and moved that it be referred to the Council:

RESOLVED, That the President be authorized and requested to appoint a Committee on Civil Service Relations to confer with the National Assembly of Civil Service Commissions and the Council of the National Civil Service Reform League and cognate organizations and to report if practicable at the mid-winter meeting of the Council or at the ensuing conference.

The motion was passed and the resolution referred to the Council.

It was also moved, seconded and voted that the following resolution be referred to the Council:

RESOLVED, That the Council of the American Library Association, in accordance with the recommendation of the Government Documents Round Table, expresses to the Committee on Printing its gratification at the progress toward a better system of printing and distributing public documents embodied in the interests of economy and efficiency in proposed legislative

measures, and resolved that the Round Table specifically expresses its appreciation of the courteous and sympathetic interest of Mr. George H. Carter, clerk of the committee in obtaining consideration for the needs of libraries.

Dr. GEORGE F. BOWERMAN presented the following report of the committee on Resolutions, which was unanimously adopted:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

The American Library Association desires to express its cordial thanks for the gracious courtesies and attentions its members have enjoyed during its Thirty-Ninth Annual Conference. Louisville has given us of her bounty with such prodigality as to make proverbial Kentucky hospitality a delightful reality. The hospitalities we have received at the hands of the local Executive Committee representing the Louisville Free Public Library, the Louisville Convention and Publicity League and other bodies have been so many and so varied as to make particular mention of all difficult.

We cannot here attempt to recount the tale of all that Louisville has provided with such charming and spontaneous generosity—entertainments arranged for our profit and enjoyment that will remain among the pleasurable memories of a lifetime. Certain salient features which make this conference in a southern city unique we cannot refrain from noting:

The warm welcome to the South formally extended by Governor Stanley of Kentucky and by Mayor Buschemeyer of Louisville at the opening session, the spirit of which was made to pervade the entire conference through the assiduous and courteous attentions of General Bennett H. Young, chairman of the local committee, and of Mr. George T. Settle, secretary of the committee and librarian of the Louisville Free Public Library; the exceptional genius of literary, artistic and musical Louisville as so delightfully revealed to us in the sacred concert, in the exhibit of the Louisville Artists' League at the Public Library, and in the brilliant

program provided by Louisville authors and musicians; the special reception given us through the hospitality of the Womans' Club, and the two receptions in the Seelbach Auditorium; the scholarly and inspiring sermon by Rev. Dr. Edward L. Powell; the revelation of the unusual beauties of the city of Louisville, its attractive library and its notable park system in the enjoyable automobile drive; for all these the Association expresses grateful appreciation to Louisville in the persons of the Local Committee.

To the speakers not members of the Association who have added to the interest and value of our program by their informing and inspiring addresses, our cordial thanks are also due, particularly to Dr. Shailer Mathews, Mr. J. W. Dietz, and Mr. Carl Hunt, who have come to us from a distance, and to Mrs. Alice Hegan Rice, Mrs. George Madden Martin, Mr. Cale Young Rice, Mrs. Annie Fellows Johnston and to others of Louisville's distinguished authors and musicians who have added for us to their published works, already ours, the charm of their personalities.

The Association also desires to express its high appreciation of the courtesy of the Associated Advertising Clubs of the World for its loan of the valuable exhibit of business books.

We wish also to thank most heartily the press of Louisville for its generous attitude and its able and satisfactory reporting of the proceedings and discussions of the conference.

Much of our comfort in attending the conference has been due to the perfection of the plans of Mr. Settle, and to the remarkable and tireless attention to details shown by him, by the entire library staff and by the citizens of Louisville who served upon the local committee. To all of them, not forgetting their efficient first aids, the Boy Scouts, we wish to offer our most sincere thanks.

GEORGE F. BOWERMAN,
MABELLA W. FREEMAN,
JOHN E. GOODWIN,
Committee on Resolutions.

The following cablegram was received signed jointly by Mr. MacAlister, the president of the British Library Association, and Mr. Koch, of the Library of Congress, who was in England:

London, June 21.

Cordial greetings from brothers in arms. Hope you appoint Louvain committee. Look forward to International Congress at inauguration of restored Louvain Library.

J. Y. W. MACALISTER.
T. W. KOCH.

The subject was subsequently referred to the committee on Coöperation with European libraries, Mr. E. H. Anderson, chairman.

The SECRETARY read the report of the tellers of election, showing that the following officers had been elected:

REPORT OF THE TELLERS OF ELECTION

Total number of votes cast, 225.

President

Thomas L. Montgomery, librarian Pennsylvania State Library, Harrisburg, Pa. 216 votes.

First Vice-President

Judson T. Jennings, librarian Seattle Public Library. 222 votes.

Second Vice-President

Linda A. Eastman, vice-librarian Cleveland Public Library. 221 votes.

Members of Executive Board

(for three years)

Herbert Putnam, librarian Library of Congress, Washington, D. C. 222 votes.

Electra C. Doren, librarian Dayton Public Library. 218 votes.

Members of Council

(for five years)

Edna B. Pratt, organizer New Jersey Public Library Commission, Trenton, N. J. 219 votes.

Louisa M. Hooper, librarian Public Library, Brookline, Mass. 217 votes.

Mary Emogene Hazeltine, preceptor University of Wisconsin Library School, Madison, Wis. 219 votes.

Willis K. Stetson, librarian Free Public Library, New Haven, Conn. 217 votes.

Malcolm G. Wyer, librarian University of Nebraska, Lincoln. 218 votes.

Trustee of Endowment Fund

William W. Appleton, trustee New York Public Library. 216 votes.

President-elect Montgomery was called to the platform.

Mr. BROWN: Mr. President, we believe that never before has a Conference placed upon its officers so many responsibilities. We believe that never before has the membership shown its loyalty and willingness to work for the Association more than now. I congratulate you, sir, upon your election and congratulate the Association upon my being able to pass this gavel to you.

President-elect MONTGOMERY: Before saying a word to the Association I wish to extend my heartiest congratulations to the retiring president. He has conducted this meeting with a quiet dignity that has made it, to my mind, one of the most successful meetings we have ever held. That makes it more difficult for his successor to follow

such successful performance. I am not going to say anything to you in the way of making an address. I am simply going to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the great honor you have done me in electing me president of this Association. I consider it one of the greatest honors which has ever come to me, and I fully realize the responsibilities connected with it. It was 27 years ago that I came into your midst, that is, I came into the midst of a few of you, because I saw the other day, when counting the register, that there are eight members at the present Conference who were members when I came into the Association.

I am only going to ask you that in this very busy year—and we are going to have a very busy year indeed—that you will, one and all, give your earnest coöperation, force and character to the splendid program that is to be laid out before you and that you will act with your officers in making this one of the most noteworthy, active years the Association has ever had.

The Conference is now adjourned *sine die*.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

FIRST SESSION

The Executive Board met in the Hotel Seelbach, Louisville, on June 21, 1917, 4 p. m.

Present: President Brown, Messrs. Dudgeon, Jennings, Bostwick, Ranck and Bailey.

The committee on Resolutions was appointed as follows: George F. Bowerman, chairman; Marilla W. Freeman and John E. Goodwin.

It was voted that the election of officers be held on Tuesday, June 26, that the polls be open 9 a. m. to 2:30 p. m., and that William Teal and Anne Coldewey serve as tellers of election.

It was voted that the proposal to amend

Section 1 of the By-laws to the Constitution, so that the term of service of the Finance committee be for the fiscal year of the association, be laid on the table.

Reports of progress were received from the committee on Libraries in hospitals and charitable and correctional institutions, and from the committee on Code for classifiers. (These reports are printed elsewhere in Proceedings of the Conference.)

SECOND SESSION

Macauley's Theatre, Louisville, Ky.

June 27, 1917

Present: President Montgomery, Vice-President Jennings, Misses Rathbone and